

THE
EXPOSITOR
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JOURNAL OF PRACTICAL CHURCH METHODS



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C O N T E N T S

Christ is Adequate	142
Christ Wants us <i>C. Irving Benson</i>	144
The Glory of The Ministry <i>Frederick W. Burnham</i>	145
Re-Tirement <i>Fred Smith</i>	147
Editorial Comment "Two or Three" Food Handling Blind Man's Accomplishments Don't Mix Gas and Booze	148
Church Methods What is Success? Lecture Course for Ministers Spiritual Life Clinic School Program Dedication Prayer, <i>Jenkins</i> People Over Fifty Pastor with \$8 in Cash Church Construction Vatican Policies Fund Raising, <i>Nygaard</i>	150
Sermons	153
When Your Ship Goes Down <i>W. Franklin Harkey</i>	
When The Bells Ring <i>J. Ithel Jones</i>	
Looking Up <i>Walter Moll</i>	
Illustrations	161
Book Reviews	163
Topical Index	165
Where to Buy	166

The EXPOSITOR

and HOMILETIC REVIEW

A Journal of Practical Church Methods

CHRIST IS ADEQUATE

SAID Stanley High in an article in Christian Herald some years ago:

My host in Benares was an Englishman. Fifteen years before, fresh from Oxford, he had come out to India. He didn't have to come. He had an independent fortune and a secure social position at home. But he knew about India. And he couldn't get India's burden off his heart. And that brought him to Benares. And, in Benares, it brought him into the service, not of the city's cultured, British-educated high-castes, but of the city's scavengers. These--the lowest of the low-lived, shunned and abandoned, on the outskirts of Benares. For centuries Hindu voices had been upraised in prayer from the Ganges, but through centuries no Hindu voice had been upraised to intercede, effectively, for them. This missionary came proclaiming a gospel of salvation. And, through fifteen years, he has proved it. The miserable huts have been torn down. Homes have appeared. The old darkness is going. Schools have been built. These shrinking, cringing, off-scourings of Hinduism have learned, from the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to walk uprightly as men.

The intelligentsia can talk about the inadequacy of Christianity. But, their talk wouldn't get far in these outcaste-villages.

The Christianity that came to those villages is adequate; adequate to save them from every affliction from which, through the centuries of Hinduism, they had vainly prayed to be delivered.

Hebr. 7:25 "He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him."

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CHRIST WANTS US

G. IRVING BENSON

THERE were some women once who watched a young man in Jerusalem, unsteadily dragging a cross on which he was soon to be crucified.

These women with children in their -- arms wept, as women do weep, at the sight of suffering, be the sufferer innocent or guilty. Never is man executed but women will cry, no matter what his crime. He is somebody's son.

Seeing the blood running down this Man's wan face and His lacerated body where the scourge had torn Him, their pity gushed forth in shrill Oriental wailing.

He was so young to die. Perhaps they knew something of His compassion for the sick. His kindness to women, His love for children; so they were moved to pity through all the brutal hatred and savage cruelty that was sending Him to His death.

I cannot recall an instance in the Gospels of a woman being an enemy of Jesus. No woman deserted or betrayed, persecuted or opposed Him.

Their compassion strewed these last soft petals upon His path of thorns. Can any of us, even now -- we who know the sequel to His harrowing tale, as the women did not -- can any of us contemplate His sufferings without being moved, if not to tears, then to thoughts that lie too deep for tears.

In His pain and weariness, He noticed their tears; and paused long enough to say "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for Me, weep for yourselves and for your children. There was no selfishness in His sorrow. He did not pity Himself. Trouble was brewing, He knew, for the people of the city and He thought it would be much worse than His own.

No word of Jesus is more revealing than this word for those who pitied Him. He did not need pity. If they saw only His bleeding, beaten, weakened body -- they misunderstood Him. At that very moment He could have scattered His captors.

Melbourne Herald, Melbourne Australia

NOT OUR TEARS

His body might be weakened, but He was going to His death of His own accord, as a conqueror to His coronation.

It is this sublime insight which has prompted the Christian Church to cherish the Cross.

Jesus went to the Cross not because He was *WRONG* but because He was *RIGHT*; not because He was *WEAK*, but because He was *STRONG*.

Christianity is a religion, which as Reinhold Niebuhr says, "transcends tragedy."

It is not a religion of death but of death swallowed up in *VICTORY*.

The man who has overcome himself will always overcome the world. The fainting-body must not hide from us the triumphant spirit!

"Weep not for Me," said Christ. He saw Jerusalem battered into ruins, the temple burned with fire, the cruelty of Roman revenge, and He saw that there as always, the heaviest suffering would fall upon the women and children.

It is ever so. If there is political wrong or social injustice, or domestic disaster, the sorrow falls upon them. When the scourge of war devastates the land, it is the women and the children who suffer most.

The things to weep about were the things in the life of Jerusalem that made the Cross possible and inevitable. And the change in the life of a nation always begins with its women. It is the women who lift or lower the moral standards of a nation.

The Passiontide fails in its highest ministry to mankind, if we see in the Cross *only a theme for sentimental emotion!*

Studdert Kennedy said in his own stinging way that the last thing Christ wanted to be was pathetic. The last thing that He wanted to do was to set our souls sailing on a sea of tears to nowhere in particular.

Christ wants more than our tears, He wants our *VERY SELVES* for the world-revolution which is the Kingdom of God!

THE GLORY OF

FREDERICK W. BURNHAM

TO SPEAK of the glory of the Christian ministry opens the way for misconceptions of that *high calling*. It seems to suggest possibilities for personal glorification of the minister himself. In fact a minister faces that danger. It will be dispelled, however, if he keeps in mind those deprecating words of the Apostle Paul; (Gal. 6:14) "But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world." In 11 Cor. 4:17, the Apostle says, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us."

Of course, all service to one's fellow-men is glorious if rendered in the right spirit. How glorious is the physician's or the surgeon's task in relieving human suffering and in extending the span of life! Or the devoted service of nurses! So, too, the efforts of lawyers, of statesmen, or merchants, manufacturers, artisans, and of unskilled laborers, when the service is rendered with honest intent and devotion to duty. Each and all have their appropriate glory.

But the distinctive glory of the ministry lies in the character of the service rendered. It deals with spiritual and eternal concerns, and seeks to bring their values to the attention, and into the lives of people everywhere. It exalts character and destiny. It warns that man, although related to the earthly creatures, is not a brute. He does not live by bread alone. He cannot be satisfied with mere "things." House-furnishings, however elegant, do not make a home. Comradeship is more important than even a roof and shelter. The Son of Man had not where to lay His head, but He had life abundant. Soldiers in the trenches find that their well-being depends more upon the courage, integrity and honor of their "buddies" than upon the protecting cover of the trench-roof; for, when they go over the top, the manliness and courage of "the buddy" may mean life instead of death for the soldier. So in all our lives, we are members one of another and our individual well-being

THE MINISTRY

is conditioned by our social environment. Love, sympathy, generosity, vision, hope, peace-of-mind and nobility are as substantial realities as wealth, possessions or power. It is not enough to win a fortune; men and women must win their souls. It is the glory of the ministry to stress these eternal values.

The ministry leads to the unveiling and revealing of God. To know God and to sustain personal relations with Him is not only the first duty of man, (as saith the creed), but is man's highest privilege, as well, and the basis of his finest contribution to the world's civilization. It is more important than is the ability to split an atom or to direct a congress.

The glory of the ministry lies in helping men and women to realize the *reality of God's presence!*

God is not found by the reasoning faculties only. We possess other powers of knowing, such as the feeling and appreciation of beauty, music, art, and the glories of nature. It is one thing to read a book on astronomy; but quite a different thing to go out on a clear night and look up at the starry heavens and share the Psalmist thrill, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork." It is one thing to hear Deems Taylor discuss the technique of a symphony, describing how its parts are put together, but it is another thing to listen to Sebelius' "Finlandia" or to hear Michael Rabin's violin interpret Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony. We live by emotions as well as by thought. "Help Your Child to Wonder" advised Rachel Carson in September Reader's Digest. Why wonder? Because this is God's world and the sense of wonder is an avenue to the unveiling of God.

Dr. Charles R. Brown, one time minister of a Congregational Church in California and late professor in Union-Theological Seminary, New York, in his book entitled, "My Yesterdays", tells of a minister and a Texas cow-boy who arrived together at the edge of the Grand Canyon in Arizona. As they came to the rim and looked across the eleven miles to the other side, and down its 8,000 foot gorge, the minister removed his hat. The cow-boy removed his hat. The

Pastor Emeritus, 7th Street Christian Church
Richmond, Virginia

minister exclaimed, "O Lord, how wonderful are all Thy works." The cow-boy, with equal reverence, said, "Don't it beat Hell!" That cow-boy was not profane. He was merely expressing wonder in the only language he knew.

Now it is the province of the ministry to help people express their wonder in terms relating to God who created a sense of wonder as a means of attracting them to Himself. So far as we know, the dumb animals have no sense of wonder. They only fear.

The ministry offers the pastor an opportunity of guiding the lives of children and youth helpfully, not only through personal contacts, vital as these are, but also by means of the varied organizations of the church under his vision and leadership.

Whether or not the minister has the assistance of a paid Director of Religious Education, the Bible School and the varied youth organizations such as the Chi Rho group, the C.Y.F. group, the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts have a share in his interest and oversight. In fact, few men or women, except parents and teachers, hold such vital contacts with the youth of our land. I had a letter recently from a man, now a grandfather, who said; "I sometimes wonder whether we could have made the grade, if it had not been for that great and abiding faith impressed upon us in our early days." If a nation-wide poll could be taken doubtless thousands, perhaps millions, of similar testimonials from all the churches would arise.

The ministry also offers an opportunity for leadership in a glorious fight for righteousness and social justice. It is interesting to note how often the word "fight" and its concomitants are used in the N. T. "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold of eternal life." (1 Tim. 6:12), "I have fought a good fight" (2 Tim. 4:7), "So fight I, not as one that beateth the air" (1 Cor. 9:26), and many more. The book of Revelation is a book of war-fare. New Testament Christians were good fighters. They sometimes even fought among themselves, but that was condemned. It was centuries later that Christians burned one another at the stake, as did John Calvin to Servetus because Servetus didn't agree with Calvin's theology. But N. T. Christians fought the iniquities of their times, even the tyranny of centralized government.

We are constantly being reminded by our political leaders that the stability and welfare of the nation depends upon the righteousness and justice of its citizens. If so, the minister has a fine opportunity to enlist

his people in a fight against social and political injustice and to lead them in the attempt to abolish these evils. To do so is serious business, but it is a part of his gloriously high calling. A rather sophisticated newspaper man, in a conference in Des Moines, once said, "The preacher's business is to comfort the afflicted and to *afflict the comfortable!*"

Perhaps the final and triumphant glory of the ministry is that it calls for an ever deepening faith and reliance, on the part of the minister himself, upon the love and power of God as revealed in Jesus Christ, our Lord. As the years roll on, the minister increasingly realizes that his career has been glorious, not because of his wisdom and efforts, but by the *love and power of God!* Recognizing his own short-comings, his blunders and even his sins, he yet sees how God has wrought and over-wrought it, all for the advancement of His kingdom, and he, the minister himself, is humbled by the knowledge of it.

As a test of his devotion to his high calling, a minister is sometimes asked whether, if he had his life to live over, would he again *choose the ministry?* I have heard of but one answer, always in the affirmative. Said an ancient saint, "Had I a thousand lives, they should all be devoted to the service of my Lord and Savior."

Perhaps you are asking me, "And would you too?" To my ready affirmation, I would like to request that God would give me the same devoted, radiant companion who was my joy and treasure, as well as efficient helpmeet, for more than sixty years of glorious ministry.

Inflation

The Smithsons went away for their winter vacation and gave Jane, their maid, a month's wages.

On their return, four weeks later, Jane demanded higher wages.

Mrs. Smithson was horrified.

"Gracious, Jane," she exclaimed, "you've only just had a holiday with full wages! You should consider yourself fortunate."

"That's just it," said Jane. "You paid me that money for doing nothing, so it isn't fair to expect me to do all the work now for the same wages."—*New England Almanac.*

RE-TIREMENT

FRED SMITH

IT HAS long been a habit of mine when listening to a speaker or when reading printed matter, always to have in mind the possibility one has of using here and there a better or more suitable word than that just used by the speaker or writer under consideration.

With that thought in mind take another look at the title above. It has already been given the treatment just mentioned. Perhaps you can improve upon it still further! Let us, however, take a glance at whatever improvement it already has undergone. In my thinking it started out from just a plain statement of a common experience. The experience named was that of retirement. Increasingly in our day that is a fact that is giving many people time for increasing thought. People are living longer in greater numbers than they used to do. Along with this fact, comes the need, in an industrialized civilization, for people of advancing years to ask themselves what this lengthening span of life means for the fact of retirement.

Meditating on this multi-faceted plain and obvious fact I suddenly found myself rising to a fine and final solution of the whole matter by giving the plain fact of the benefit of a double improvement. The Holy Spirit, ever seeking to guide me into all the truth, was prompting me to give thought to The Christian Aspect of RE---Tirement.

Accepting at once the prompting of the Holy Spirit I saw, like a beam of light flashed into darkness, that what I had thought of in the first place as a double improvement was also a divine improvement. A fact which always takes place when one's mind and spirit is stream-lined to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. As for example in the situation under our immediate consideration.

Here is what happened in a split second. Quicker far than chemists and physicists fission the atom today the word 'retirement' was fissioned by the insertion of a triple hyphen into 're---tirement.' Immediately, on sensing the rich improvement in the word I saw that I was gathering the rewarding-fruit of what had been given to men as the root in the Holy Scripture. In this way; the first revealing that came to me was the need for a putting away before I went on to a taking in. This was the putting away, even as

Jesus once said: "Ye have heard that it was said... But now I say unto you..."

And this was the thing I had heard said: "The days of our years are three-score years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be four-score years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow." And the best in me said that this was now to be put away. Life's expectancy has increased, so that today, increasingly we see the glory of what I have seen this past week. A little old lady that I know, full of years and ever increasing in wisdom, standing on the threshold of her eightieth year, is preparing to take a trip to Britain by plane. The strength of her years reveals the insight of a pre-Christian observer who declared that "the path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." (Proverbs 4:18)

But what this seer saw as gleam in darkness we now know, through Christ, the Sun of righteousness, the Light of the world, as realized fact in all its fullness. In the light of that realized truth my heart was tuned to singing the words of a grand old hymn:

"Spirit who makest all things new,
Thou ledest onward; we pursue -
The heavenly march sublime."

In the light of these words I have come to see how Christ and Christianity give us new perspectives on life from which comes a new philosophy concerning time and eternity. The Christian is above, outside, beyond time. The everlasting life is sublimed into eternal life. (See John 17:3) Christians ever need to develop and use a terminology adequate to the great facts of their faith. Through Christ we know we are not merely the children of the fleeting years; we are the children of the eternal God. The grave is not the terminus of life. For the Christian is one who knows no old age, only perpetual youth. "We count not time by years." In the Christian life we never grow old. We are subject to Christ; not to the clock. And the pendulum swings ever: glory upon glory has our God prepared for the saints who love him; not the tick-tock of a clock that is forever running down.

Now you see how and why the chilling word retirement was fissioned into the scintillating truth of re---tirement. The Christian is forever living on the threshold of the ever-new, ever rising on stepping stones of his dead selves to higher things. Jesus was always wanting to tell his followers the glory of this ever expanding life. In His Father's house are many mansions.

So from one who is advancing in years to you who are moving along this high road comes the counsel that you speak of it and live on it like Christians. Civilization, with its machines and mechanics, come to us all

(See Page 148)

Page 147

Editorial Comment

"TWO OR THREE"

MY attention was called recently to churches whose pastors were discouraged because more of their members did not attend the prayer meetings. I wrote a friend who is a member of one of those churches, containing a thousand members, and called attention to Matthew 18: 19-20, where Jesus said something great would happen if two or three were gathered together to pray, in His name. We need to read Andrew Murray's chapter showing what it means to do anything in the name of another. It makes all the difference in the world whether we come together in His Name, and it does not matter whether there are *few* or *many*. In the foreword to the story of Uncle John Vassar, the writer calls attention to the fact that we are obsessed with the mass idea. Of course a crowd stimulates the ordinary human speaker,--but Jesus avoided the crowds, and did some of His best work with individuals, as with the woman at the well, and with Philip and the many others. Madame Chiang Kai-shek wrote an interesting little book telling of the small prayer groups she organized in Formosa. In small groups they easily learned to pray aloud together.

It is surprising how many people think they are doing Christian work when they are merely having a good time working together, while the most important thing, intercession, is entirely overlooked and disregarded. Billy Sunday was right when he spoke many years ago about the "cook-stove apostasy." Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, the pastor of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, dedicated that wonderful little book, *The Practice*

Retirement, from 147

at the last with its pre-emptory order to retire. Take it as befits a Christian. Then pass to another usefulness wherein your faith uses your face, your fingers and your feet to a further glory for Christ. For, never forget that in the realm where Christ is King there is no such thing as a useless Christian. Christ never puts you on a shelf; He forever puts you out to service.

and power of prayer, to the ten prayer groups meeting weekly in his church for intercession.

One of the most helpful spiritual leaders says that when a church seems to be going backward, instead of calling to prayer they appoint a committee. He says an appropriate epitaph for such a church would be "committed to death." Sometimes a new organization is started, which is just as deadly. We work so hard and are too tired to attend a meeting for prayer, but an ancient writer said, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." What would happen if we should call for a meeting solely for prayer?

--Homer F. Yale, Windsor, New York,
in the "Watchman-Examiner", July 11, 1957

COUNCIL REJECTS ORDINANCE TO REGULATE FOOD HANDLING

The City Council of Oklahoma City rejected an ordinance to bring food handling by church and civic groups up to minimum standards.

City Health Director, Dr. M. L. Peter, asked the councilmen to adopt the resolution. He said the ordinance was needed to guard against an outbreak of food poisoning, because many church kitchen facilities are below health standards.

Dr. Peter told the councilmen that during his career as a health officer "the three largest outbreaks of food poisoning have been in churches or benevolent groups."

One councilman, Charles Schreck, a Baptist layman, accused the health director of "taking a slap at the churches and civic groups and a lot of other people who are helping out with the benevolent activities."

* * * * *

Pastors everywhere should call attention of church service groups to this report by the RNS and urge leaders to take steps to avoid incidents of this nature, by following health rules, and installing equipment if needed for disposal of left-overs, trash, and avoid hazards to health; also, air-conditioners in service quarters, and washrooms.

BLIND MAN GUIDES CANDY CHAIN TO TOP IN ITS FIELD

THE head of a candy company that grosses nearly \$20-million a year, John D. Hayes, says he wouldn't be doing nearly so well if he weren't blind. "God's been good to me. He's given me trust and faith, and the ability to treat people the way I would like them to treat me." In the business of making and selling candy those tenets have proved successful. Mr. Hayes, who lost his sight 30 years ago, is the chairman of the Fanny Farmer Candy Company Shops of Rochester, N. Y., which under his direction, has grown into the largest manufacturing-retailer of candies in the nation.

How does a blind man go about running a company with 3700 persons on its payroll, and shops in more than 200 cities?

It's simple, Mr. Hayes says. He's not really handicapped because he sees everything in his "mind's eye."

Of the three things that executives do the most--read, travel and make decisions--Mr. Hayes does as much as any, more than some.

Travels 30,000 miles a year

He doesn't use Braille. Every thing from statistical reports to novels is read to him by his wife--"God blessed me when he gave me Mulla"--and "two good secretaries."

He doesn't use a seeing-eye dog. Usually his wife or a staff member accompanies him on business trips. He has traveled "a minimum of 30,000 miles a year" visiting factory workers in candy plants and salesgirls in the shops so that at 74 he "knows" nearly every face in the business.

Decisions are perhaps the easiest. He has developed what his associates call a "prodigious" memory for facts and figures and sifts through these like an IBM machine to arrive at a decision. In the depression, he slashed prices 50% and sales climbed 150%. More recently he has instituted candy boxes that are sold not only by the pound but by such denominations as 50¢, and \$1, as well.

To Open 24 New Shops,
And New Plant

In public places the be-spectacled Mr. Hayes looks no different than anyone else. That's part of his philosophy of erasing any uneasiness in personal contacts that may come as a result of his blindness.

Every one of the company's shops and plants is arranged so that he knows where

everything is and can show surprised visitors around with ease.

Mr. Hayes' eyesight started to slip in 1923, when a tooth extraction resulted in a severe hemorrhage which destroyed the optic nerve. That was four years after he had rounded the candy company.

Mr. Hayes is proud of the company's growth since those days. "in the first year we ordered 20 or 25 pounds of butter and three or four or five gallons of cream, when we needed it. Now we order 500,000 pounds of butter and 150,000 gallons of cream."

The company isn't finished growing either, he says. Twentyfour shops and a new plant will be opened before the end of the year.

--By the United Press, July 9, 1957,
and published in The Buffalo Evening News, Buffalo, N. Y.

DON'T MIX GAS AND BOOZE

CHARRED flesh and twixed wreckage. Not a pleasant thought, is it?

But it happens. It happens all too often, especially in the holiday season when many drivers try to operate their cars after an evening of drinking.

Why it happens was shown recently in an experiment-demonstration at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

FOUR BENNING MPs took part. Each had four drinks. Two hours later they took driver re-action tests.

A sergeant who drank coke passed the test easily.

A private first class who downed four martinis found his braking time slowed 66 per cent. Same with a specialist third class who drank four bourbons. A private first-class who had four beers slowed down 30 percent.

And had they undergone police tests, all would have been judged drunk drivers. Drunkometer tests showed the martini drinker had three times the legal limit of alcohol in his bloodstream. The bourbon imbibor had more than twice the limit, and the beer drinker was considerably beyond the legal minimums.

The volunteers got home safely. They were assigned chauffeurs. Tipplers who don't have chauffeurs won't find it so easy to arrive safely at home.

From The Pennsylvania Legionnaire, Editorial, April, 1957, and sent in by Dr. William R. Siegert, Reading, Pennsylvania

The Bible tells us that Enoch walked with God. He walked with men at the same time. He did not leave the earth to do it. He did not shut himself away from activities.

THE CHURCH AT WORK



WHAT IS SUCCESS ?

IS the National Christian Education Convention a success? Is your church and Bible-school program successful? Are the Christian service camp and the Bible college which serve your area meeting the needs?

The answers to these questions will probably be given in arithmetic. How many were present? How much money was raised? What is the percentage of increase or decrease over a period of time? Or, if the statistics are not encouraging, we may then speak of such intangibles as the spirit of the gathering and the quality of instruction given.

This is perhaps the best yardstick we have by which to measure success. Man looks on the outward appearance, and we are men. But, --we must not stop with outward appearance.

There seems to have been a bit of elation in Peter's voice as he reported concerning Jesus' popularity, "All men seek for thee!" Jesus knew the deeper purposes of His ministry and the more accurate measure of its success. He replied, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also; for therefore came I forth..." (Mark 1: 37-38) -- From *"The Christian Standard"*

PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE LAUNCHES LECTURES FOR MINISTERS

The Nebraska Psychiatric Institute has started a weekly series of lectures for ministers, according to an RNS report printed in religious exchange.

The lectures on psychiatry will be carried by telecommunication to ministerial meetings at Nebraska's three state Mental hospitals.

Purpose of the courses is to enable ministers to handle the emotionally disturbed better. Discussion periods under the direction of the state hospital officials will follow each lecture.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CLINIC

A GROUP of ministers of several denominations have set up what is known as a "Spiritual Life Clinic" in Louisville, Kentucky. The purpose of the clinic is to help those who are troubled in mind and spirit to unburden their troubles to a sympathetic and helpful listener. The "listener" will be one of the sixteen ministers who are co-operating in the plan.

"The seeker for help," says the Louisville Courier-Journal's story of the new clinic, "need not be ashamed of the triviality of his distress. The panel realizes that the nagging, so called little problems, can so distort the individual's outlook that the results can be as devastating as those from the problems generally recognized as serious. The panel also believes the little and big problems can be put into their proper perspective with spiritual help."

NEW SCHOOL HEAD OFFERS PROGRAM

NEW school superintendent of the Hamburg, New York, Central School District I, Harry H. Hatten, believes that greater emphasis should be placed on public education "to enable us to mix ideas and develop true democracy."

Mr. Hatten suggested this seven-point program to taxpayers and Board of Education members:

1. Greater assistance to the handicapped child.
2. Further development of a guidance program.
3. Person-to-person learning, with classes of not more than 30 pupils to a room.
4. Increased audio-visual aid.
5. Community buying of text-books, since Hamburg is one of the few districts in the state that don't buy its own, from the seventh grade up.
6. Increased purchases of library books.

7. More foreign language in the elementary school because children should receive such education when it is easiest for them to learn.

A PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

ALmighty God, Our Heavenly Father, Who art the master builder of the universe, the source of all knowledge, the revealer of all truth; we acknowledge thy presence in the midst of us as we have gathered to dedicate this building to the search of wisdom, and to the establishment of a spirit of unity among the people of this community.

Grant thy blessing of success to all those who in this place shall seek after knowledge, that with all their getting they may get understanding and know that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. Cause them by their labors here to be fitted for their appointed round of life and for service unto Thee.

Unto all those who teach here wilt thou grant in large measure that stature of mind, and body, and spirit, which will enable them to guide with patience and understanding all who seek to learn of them.

So direct those who supervise the work of this school both on the administrative staff and on the board of education, as now constituted, and as shall be in the days to come, that all activities of this place may contribute to a richer and fuller life of the people of our community in keeping with Thy holy will.

This, our Prayer of Dedication, we offer unto Thee, our Father, with thanksgiving for thy bounty in providing so beautiful a place in which we may pursue learning -- and meet together for recreation and fellowship. Grant that we may always use it to thy glory of Thy Name; and unto Thee be the praise forever and ever, world without end, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

--Reverend W. Harvey Jenkins, Pastor
Northminster Presbyterian Church
Columbus, Ohio

DOCTOR ADVISES NEW HABITS FOR PEOPLE OVER FIFTY

PEOPLE over 50 should go back to school to learn how to keep on living.

A French physician, Dr. Rene Wibaux, an expert on old age phenomena, told his greying colleagues of the Parish Academy of Medicine that life after the half-century calls for wholly new habits in eating, tak-

ing exercise and other daily activities, as reported by INS, Paris, Dec. 12, 1956.

Dr. Wibaux is one of the founders of the founders of the Center for Gerontological Studies and Research.

His main advice to persons who have gone over the 50-year "hump" is to shun tobacco and alcoholic beverages.

He also recommends a balanced diet, that avoids foods rich in nitrogen and lacking in vitamins.

Fruit and honey, said Dr. Wibaux, should be the chosen foods for those who intend to live close to 100 years.

He has coined the name of "Seniculture" for his over-all blueprint designed to help people to live longer.

This program calls for regular daily habits, the development of hobbies, lots of sleep and gaiety.

Dr. Wibaux said people over 50 should avoid violent exercise, despite some individual successes in prolonging life by continued participation in vigorous sports.

Dr. Wibaux recommends instead long walks in the country.

PASTOR WITH \$8 IN CASH BUILDS FLOURISHING CHURCH IN FIVE YEARS

The members of the First Baptist Church, Pico, California, are reported to have celebrated a fifth anniversary of their church, founded on abundant faith and \$8 in cash.

The Rev. Leo Schlegel and his wife, Ernestine, knew that \$8 would scarcely buy a keg of nails when they arrived in the Los Angeles County town of 15,000 five years ago, to discover it lacked a Baptist Church, and determined to build one.

Their entire capital was spent for rent of the American Legion Hall, \$5, and an ad in the local newspaper, \$3, calling all Baptists to services the following Sunday.

The first three Sundays, Mr. Schlegel, preached to no one but Mrs. Schlegel. The fourth Sunday, three young couples showed up, and the congregation grew slowly.

In September, 1953, we are advised, a 4½ acre site in downtown Pico was purchased, and in November, 1954, ground was broken for a church building. Most of the construction work was performed by church members who dedicated their weekends, vacations and holidays to the task.

At the time of this report, we are told, the congregation has more than 450 members, the Sunday School roll has more than 400 in attendance. Five young members are studying for the ministry and the church's working capital for 1957 has snowballed to an impressive \$30,000.

GROUP REQUESTS U. S. TO OUTLINE POLICIES RELATING TO THE VATICAN

A report from Washington, D. C., July 22, 1957, reads, "A predominantly-Protestant group said Sunday it has asked the State Department to detail this country's policies -- toward the Vatican.

Protestants and other Americans United, for Separation of Church and State, said it had written the department's legal adviser, Loftus E. Becker, asking:

1. Whether the United States has recognized the Vatican as a sovereign foreign state.
2. However, if such recognition has been granted, Catholic bishops have been exempted from registering as foreign agents.

The organization said a July 12 dispatch circulated by Religious News Serv. quoted "high-ranking officials" of the State Department's legal division as saying this country has recognized the Vatican "since the Latern Treaty of 1929."

Stanley Lichtenstein, research director of the organization, said the officials also were quoted as saying bishops did not have to register as foreign agents and Americans serving as Vatican diplomats did not lose their citizenship by so doing, because "no ..oath to the Vatican State seems to be required for those serving in such positions..."

He claimed there is such an oath and questioned the status of Archbishop Aloysius Muench, Fargo, N. D., who is papal nuncio to Germany."

CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

Church Construction in May, 1957, totaling \$68,000,000, is reported as a new record for the month, the Departments of Commerce and Labor reported. The figure was \$12,000,000 more than May of last year. In the first 5-months of 1957, \$327,000,000 in new church construction has been undertaken, the government agencies estimated. This compared with \$275,000,000 in the same period of 1956. Construction by non-public schools and colleges totaled \$40,000,000 during the month, \$1,000,000 above April, but \$2,000,000 below May, 1956.

BAPTIST TREASURY

NASHVILLE (UP)—Assets of the Southern Baptist Convention and its agencies total \$131,241,242. Treasurer Porter Routh said that's an increase of more than \$20,000,000 in a year.

The noblest question in the world is, What good may I do in it?

CHURCH FUND RAISING

Norman E. Nygaard, D. D.

Dr. Nygaard is a Presbyterian Minister who has contributed regularly to The Expositor for more than thirty years. For the last six years he has given full time to writing and professional fund-raising for churches

QUESTION: How much value is a brochure in preparing for a fund-raising campaign?

ANSWER: It is always difficult to assess the value of any particular part of a campaign. Long experience, however, has shown the desirability of one or more printed pieces in conducting a successful campaign. For one thing it commits a church to a particular program. Having set down that program in black and white the members of the church know that the church leaders intend to go a certain distance and accomplish a certain end.

For this reason considerable care must be exercised in setting up a brochure. The figures which are published should be accurate. Since it is difficult to forecast building costs two or three years hence. If they are published it should be with the notation that such costs are current and conceivably could change before the church would have sufficient funds on hand to build.

If plans are published in a brochure it should be noted whether or not they have been approved by congregational action. If they have not been, it is wise to make the notation, "These plans are only tentative. They may be changed if later study shows that changes are called for. Before beginning building operations the building committee will submit plans to the congregation for approval."

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S E R M O N S



WHEN YOUR SHIP GOES DOWN

W. FRANKLIN HARKEY

TEXT: Acts 27:25 "So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told."

THE words of the text form the climax of one of the most noteworthy sea voyages that men have ever taken. This saga of the sea has become historic, not because of any material things that were on board, but because it reveals a type of faith that is needed in every age. In fact, the cargo of the ship was thrown into the sea. The importance of the story lies in the fact that on board the ship was a man by the name of Paul, celebrated here because of his intrepid faith and courage.

The timeliness of the lesson is seen in the fact that we, like those on board the ship, are fearful and afraid as we struggle on life's ocean. Too often the longing for certainty is confronted with disillusion. Faith is beset by doubt, and courage is overcome by fear. For many souls the storms of life are real and frightening. When the northeaster strikes, we know not which way to turn. We question whether or not we have on board the Steersman who knows the sea. Happy are we if we have with us a man like Paul who can calm our fears by saying, "So take heart, men for I have faith in God..."

Modern life is not essentially different from the first century. Men today ask questions concerning the meaning of life. Where can we flee for refuge in the hour of storm? Is God with us? What will we do when our Ship goes down? When the fury of the Euroclydon surrounds us where shall we look for help?

Washington, Pennsylvania

Luke and Paul knew weather conditions. Paul understood the season of the year and he knew the uncertainty of the sea at that time of year. His advice was that the ship should tarry at Fair Havens, but the centurion ignored the voice of Paul. The captain steered his ship close to shore but even there the storms swept in from the sea with great fury.

Now, life is like that. There are uncertainties. Storms sweep against the strongest. Much of our uncertainty is caused by our lack of understanding of God's plan for our lives. We go on unheeding the advice given. Life at best is baffling, and it is all the worse when man feels that he is sufficient in himself to do battle with the elements. And no age is more prone to follow this idea than ours. Man looks at his magnificent achievements and feels that he is sufficient. Hence we have men and women deserting the old faith. Enmeshed in a multitude of material things too many of us forget the spiritual. We go blindly on our way without asking for God's guidance and direction. The result inevitably is the same, - like the crewmen on Paul's ship, we are baffled and afraid and finally we discover that the ship will go down.

These disasters come because we not only ignore the rules of safety, but spurn the advice of Christian men. Youth is often singled out as an example of this reasoning. Juvenile delinquency continues because the teachings of Scripture are ignored. Parents have ignored Christian culture before the child is guilty of crime. There are few exceptions to that rule. We have sometimes thought that a multitude of entertainments would be preventives. Recreation, keeping the minds of youth occu-

pied, training minds and hands, -all these- have failed because we have not added the sure teaching of God's Word. Hence, in the hour of trial character fails.

Wreckage Caused

Two hundred and seventy-six persons were on board the ship of Adramyttium that set sail for Italy. Paul was the noted prisoner. He had appealed his case to Caesar. It was winter time when the ship sailed along the coast of Asia. The captain took no heed to Paul's warning that they would come to disaster. The story of the wreckage that occurred is too well known to every Bible student to need repeating. If we can carry the symbolism of this ship out into life, we can find the wreckage of many lives that have failed to heed the message of the Gospel. Sheer stubbornness - sometimes is the cause that leads to disaster. Then again, indifference may lead one astray from the path of rectitude and right.

In essence sin causes the wreckage of life. It may be called unwillingness to follow the Christian life, the failure to accept the overtures of Divine love, or doubt. Defeat may stare us in the face and we begin to doubt the mercy of God. Years ago, a saint of God wrote in his diary, "I am not now a Christian."

The experience of these ancient sailors can be retold for our benefit, "As we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to throw the cargo overboard; and the third day they cast out with their own hands the tackle of the ship." In the stress of life often the material things fail to satisfy. Men desire security and long for satisfaction.

What To Do About Storms

Storms have always come. They will always cause disaster. Men admit that great evils face them. In their own souls they realize that storms arise, and sometimes these storms overwhelm them. They face destruction. Often they know not which way to turn. They are baffled by the tides that sweep them off their feet. The wild winds of life are too much, and many give way in despair. Men ask, what can I count on in a world in which so much is uncertain? We are like the disciples who set out to cross the Sea of Galilee. Soon they were caught in a terrific storm. But, in that hour Jesus came to them. Therein lies safety, for as Jesus came aboard the sea became calm and men's spirits were quieted. It has ever been so when the Master is on board the ship.

Those who have experienced these things know whereof they speak. The Apostle could say, "For I know whom I have believed." Our safety lies in a sure belief in

God. We, too, can take heart if we have faith in God. One of God's saints wrote very early, "I had fainted unless I had believed to see the goodness of God in - the land of the living." The Christian can say, "Be of good cheer" because he knows that God is at the helm. The N. T. is a radiant book because it reveals victorious lives lived in a dark time. In the midst of the stress and strain of life there is for us this sure hope.

Inasmuch as God is our sure refuge, our certainty also lies in a firm belief in the way of righteousness. In the very nature of things man must follow in the way of holiness. Any other way leads to destruction. The spiritual resources are ours. He Who rules the waves of the sea will catch the faintest whisper of the child of God.

Our unfailing resources lie in nothing less than the love of God. We rest in that security. God does not desert His own. Many have tried to describe the love of God, but always much remains to be said. Some one years ago called John 3:16, The Fujiyama Text. This Japanese Christian went on to say that, just as Mount Fuji -- covers all the background of Japanese pictures, so the love of God covers all life. Even so the love of God is all sufficient, for the Christian. That love had its supreme manifestation in the cross of Christ. It becomes very personal when one stands beside the cross, and realizes that the Cross is for each believer. In the hour in which it is our privilege to live and serve, we are rediscovering the Cross of Christ. As we center our thoughts on Christ Jesus we are brought into a new relation with Him Who ever lives to bring peace to men.

It was for the sake of proclaiming the Cross of Christ that Paul appealed unto Caesar. Even in the hour when the ship on which he was traveling was being blown to bits the Apostle could stand in the midst of the passengers and assure them that God had spoken to him. So, the enheartening message for us is the same as it was for the frightened passengers on board this ship in the Asian waters, "So take heart, men, for I have faith in God." And doubtless the lines of an old hymn will cheer the heart, as we breathe the prayer,

"Jesus, Saviour, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal;
Chart and compass came from Thee:
Jesus, Saviour, pilot me."

Blessed is he who has found his work.
Let him ask no other blessedness. He
has a work, a life purpose. -Carlyle



MINISTERING TO THE MINISTER

The Minister has no Minister. His vocation binds him to comfort the comfortless, yet he has no earthly comforter. He ministers but is not ministered unto. "To find a balm for others' woe" is the pastor's work below; though for the preacher's hour of stress, the balm supply is low.

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1717 — Two Hundred Forty Years — 1957

Prayer of a Shut-in

By Katherine L. Ramsdell.

I do not understand, dear Lord,
The mystery of pain,
But I would firmly grasp Thy hand
Till courage comes again.
To teach me how to live within
These walls which stand so high
And shut me from the friendly world—
Just let me glimpse the sky.
My bruised spirit longs to leave
This weary prison place,
Yet here my heart comes nearest
To the meaning of Thy grace.
It's here I've learned the secret:
Pain borne bravely, silently,
Brings to me life's sweetest gift—
Companionship with Thee.

—Gospel Herald.

TO A GRANDSON

I look into your eyes, Laddie,
And in their depths I see
The men who made America,
And kept her strong and free.
I see gallant men from England,
And Swiss and Germans, too,
And a merry bit of Ireland
Smile through the eyes of you.
They held the torch aloft, Laddie,
That kept our country free,
And now I see its steady light
Shine through your eyes at me.
They've laid their tools aside, Laddie,
Their fighting days are done,
But the task has not been finished,
The job is yours, my son!

* * * * Sophie Rowe, reprinted
by request from page 415
Sept. 1946 Expositor.

WHEN THE

BELLS RING

J. ITHEL JONES

TEXT: LUKE 15:10 "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

IF THAT is true, then of all things ever said it is the most glorious; if it is not true, then it is the most absurd.

On the face of it, it would appear absurd to claim that heaven is interested at all in anything that goes on down here on earth. When we realize how tiny this earth is and how vast the universe, it is indeed very questionable whether God and His angels are concerned with this little planet. We have come to feel acutely today our relative position in the universe. "Are we not told, as a very elementary fact, that light, traveling at the rate of some eleven million miles a minute, takes three and a half years, less or more, to reach us from the very nearest of the stars, the closest of our neighbours, and that the mass of them are vastly farther off than that, constellations heaped on constellations, and universe on universe, it seems? And somewhere in the immeasurable wastes there spins an earth, to us central and huge, but really a tiny atom of a thing, so unimportant that, did it fall out of the sky, it would be missed no more than one leaf fluttering earthwards in an interminable forest clothed in its midsummer glory."

No one but the late A. J. Gossip could put it quite like that. But we have all been made to feel it in our own way. "There is joy among the angels of God" over something that goes on down here? It surely cannot be!

And yet, in spite of the appalling vastness of the universe in which this earth of ours is set, some of the scientists seem to suggest that conditions on the earth, make it appear that it has somehow been chosen out of myriads of worlds for a particular purpose.

Let us not misunderstand this. It is not a case of our religious faith being based on the remarks of a few scientists. But we do need to realise what science is actually saying as opposed to what some in a vague way think science is saying. What the evidence seems to point to is not that the universe is so vast that we cannot attach any importance to this earth at all so far as the Creator Spirit is concerned, but that de-

spite the fact that the universe is so unimaginably great, yet, conditions of life upon the earth are such as to suggest that it is at least one of those planets which have been specially picked out.

"There is joy among the angels" over something that happens down here? It may not be so absurd after all.

Now, if Jesus had claimed that in a general way heaven is interested in the earth, in its great movements and final destiny, it might have been credible. But He was not content to do that. "There is joy in heaven over ONE..." Something that happens here on earth to one man is of great concern to God and His hosts?

This is rather much. We have been thinking of the significance of the earth in the universe. Think now of the insignificance of one man in relation to the earth and the whole of humanity. And let A. J. Gossip thunder again. "Here we are, turned out by the million, lost in the crowd of creation, indistinguishable from our fellows at a very little distance, putting through the trivial nothings that make our lives, really tiny insects crawling about the bottom of this little pool of air, a handful of miles high, no more, in which we can live. A Moment, and we are gone, swallowed up, we too, by that oblivion which has engulfed such multitudes whose lives were every bit as interesting and important to them as ours are now to us. A few years at the most, and the moss-grown lettering on our tombstones will have grown indecipherable; and, wonderfully, quickly, our name will have sunk into a soundless sound, conveying nothing to a single mind."

"There is joy in heaven over one..." Is it really possible? Is it conceivable that God should be concerned over me? Jesus said, "There is joy in heaven over one..." Not once, not twice did He say it. The sparrow does not fall to the ground without God, He claimed. A shepherd having a hundred sheep, if one of them be lost, will not rest till he find it. And God, said Jesus, is like that.

What is the reason for this claim to importance of the individual man or woman? It is that we have been made in the image of God. The universe is great; even this world is great, but I can contain it in my mind and therefore am greater than it. There is Pascal's celebrated word about the mountain rising up and crushing him; he would

The Expository Times, Edinburgh, Scotland

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still be greater than the mountain because
he would know he was being crushed while
the mountain would not. The cynic may say
that that is cold comfort to the man under
the mountain. But it is still a great word.
Man is not puny. He is mind and spirit, made
in the image of his Creator God.

Joy in heaven over one man? Not so ab-
surd, perhaps.

But the whole thing seems to be spoiled
again. If Jesus had left it at that and had
us believe that heaven is concerned about
one man who bears the image of God, we
might even have found ourselves able to
accept it. We would have conjured up in our
minds pictures of those in whom that Divine
image shone forth in unparalleled splendor
— names like Stephen and John the Beloved,
Bonaventura and St. Francis, Mary Slessor,
and David Livingstone, Aggrey and Sadhu
Sundar Singh and Albert Schweitzer. When
we see their great faith we can well imagine
heaven itself being concerned. But, no.
“There is joy in heaven over one sinner..”

Not one in whom the Divine image is un-
mistakable, but one in whom the Divine im-
age is almost blotted out. Not one whose
face is constantly toward God, but one
whose face is away from God. Not one who
has succeeded, but one who has failed. And
in all His ministry Jesus seemed to empha-
size this fact. He earned for Himself the
scornful name of friend of publicans and
sinners. He defied the world by showing
that heaven is concerned over something
that happens to a sinner.

Well, that “something” which stirs heaven
must be quite cataclysmic. It must mean that
the sinner of whom we spoke has suddenly
become a saint; it must mean that the.....
of God has so worked as to bring back into

shining glory the Divine image which had
been almost wiped out? Surely nothing less
than that could set the bells of heaven ring-
ing?

No. “There is joy in heaven over one sin-
ner that repenteth.” Not one who reaches
the portals of heaven and makes the angels
whisper, “How like Christ he is!” but one
whose face slowly turns in a new direction;
not one who has reached the goal, but one
who sets his feet on the road; not one who
has reached the Father’s home and upon
whose neck the Father has fallen, but one
who in the far country comes to himself,
and mutters, “I will arise and go.” That
is all.

There must have been plenty of bad news
carried to heaven lately, plenty to make
heavy the heart of God, from this strife-rid-
den world whose madness seems to grow
rather than to abate. There is something
that can relieve the grief of God, says Je-
sus. And we are all qualified to do it. Some
of us are rich, some poor; some happy, some
sad; but we are all sinners. We are of that
number that can set heaven ringing. We can
do it if we will change our mind about God
and ourselves. That act, simple in itself,
tremendous in its possibilities, can give
joy to the angels of God.

An incredible story? We might indeed
think so if we did not recall the lips from
which it first came.

*The Cover Picture, showing the beautiful
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LOOKING UP

WALTER H. MOLL

TEXT: 1 Peter 3:8-9

HAVE you ever wondered what qualities are expected of you, as a Christian? Have you ever wondered how the Lord expects you to act toward other Christians as well as toward unbelievers? The apostle Peter is not afraid to tell you what qualities a Christian needs. He has just finished giving instructions to husbands and wives concerning their duties toward each other, and now he turns to all Christians, and gives them a few valuable words of advice. In this day and age when far too many ministers are using their pulpits to explain the significance of the latest advances in nuclear physics, when far too many are telling the people how to relax and be at ease by thinking about all the good things they have done and forgetting the evil in the world; when far too many are leaving Christ out of the sermon in order to tell the people what they want to be told instead of what God wants them to be told, the apostle Peter puts great stress on these few words of exhortation, to those who are saved by the blood of the Lamb.

Finally, all of us, are to have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing. You have been called by God to inherit the blessing of a Christian, which means just this: God has called you to believe on His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Saviour of the world and your own personal Saviour. He has called you to put your faith in Christ for your salvation. He has called you to put your faith into practice in your everyday life. You are called to be a Christian all the way through, not just on the surface, not just on Sunday, not just when you are sick and are forced to lie down and look up--but God wants you to look up all the time, for only by looking up can you receive the strength necessary to perform the duties of your Christian calling. You are called to receive a blessing, the most important blessing of all, the forgiveness of sins, the assurance of salvation through

Norwood Park, Chicago 31, Illinois

Christ. What a wonderful blessing!

But since we have received this wonderful blessing from God Himself, God expects much from each of us. He expects us to be grateful enough for this blessing that we shall make every effort to share this blessing with others. We ask how we, imperfect and weak, can possibly bless others? Let us find out what it means to bless someone. We know what it means to have God's blessing; we know that His greatest blessing to us is the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. But for us it's a little different. We do not have the almighty power to bestow such blessings upon others. In our case, God still wants us to bless others, but the word "bless" takes on a different meaning, although quite similar in many ways to the way God blesses us. When we look up the Greek word "bless" in the N. T., it has several meanings. It means to speak well of someone, to praise a person, to ask a blessing upon another, or upon yourself. When we looked up the word in Webster's dictionary, we find it to mean the same in English as it does in Greek. It means to make someone happy, to pray for the well-being of others, to praise or glorify, to ask divine favor or protection upon another. So, we have received the blessing of God upon ourselves, and God asks us to bless others. That is our duty, obligation, our privilege as Christians.

All of us have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for others, a tender heart and humble mind. This means all of us, not just certain people whom we may have in mind at the moment, but all of us. We are to have *Unity of Spirit!* Be of the same mind and intent. Agree with one another. Be intent upon the same thing. Remember we spoke before of a Christian looking up for the strength to carry out his Christian calling. You cannot afford to look anywhere else but UP. You and the person next to you - can both go through life as Christians and still not be intent on the same thing--the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Is that unity of Spirit? Is that being of one mind with your fellow-believer in Christ? Does the question ever plague you as you go about the daily routine of housework or business, "What shall I do with Jesus?" Is Jesus part of your life, or do you gently shove Him aside when you transact a rather "shady" business deal, or when you lose your temper and a curse slips out, maybe even a curse against your own child? Is that being of one mind, intent on the same Gospel of Jesus Christ? Nothing will so impress the world as believers in Christ who are unified in mind. Nothing will so impress the world as believers in Christ who stand up for each other and de-



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end each other against the world. Nothing will so impress the world as when we give up the ways of the world for the ways of Christ. Difficult? Surely, it is difficult. But is that the *IMPORTANT THING*? The fact that it's difficult? Isn't this the important thing, "to have the same mind in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men, and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death of the cross." God wants us to have the mind of Christ. God wants us to have no differing opinions on the aims of a Christian, no differing opinions on the way of salvation. "May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together, we may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

When we have unity of spirit in Christ Jesus, then the next Christian quality--will come almost automatically. Have sympathy. What is sympathy? Is it weeping when you see another weep? Is it laughing because we see another laugh? It may be, if our motive is right. When we sympathize with a person, we actually suffer right along with him, or rejoice with him when he rejoices. Sympathy actually means to share the feelings of the companion--to suffer when he suffers, because we feel the same anguish and desperation that he feels. Didn't Christ have sympathy for us when He gave His life on the cross? Didn't He suffer in our place for our sins because He could feel the sufferings that we would have, if we had to go through all that--and He knew we couldn't take it. When we see a fellow-believer suffering physically or spiritually

in this life, do we look at him and pass by on the other side? Or does Christian sympathy compel us to stop and help? If we have shown little or no Christian sympathy before, then let us open our hearts to God and confess that fault, and ask for strength and courage to sympathize with our fellow-believers for the sake of Christ, who had so much sympathy for us.

The third quality to be shown among Christians is brotherly love. Why do we say "brotherly love" instead of just "common consideration?" Doesn't a man love his own brother because they are of the same blood? Doesn't a Christian love another Christian because they are both in the body of Christ, and both heirs of God, and fellow-heirs with Christ? Brotherly love goes farther than just mutual respect. It goes as far as is necessary for it to go in order to help a fellow-believer in need. Brotherly love helps a fellow-Christian. But it goes farther than that. It takes one more step. It adds the final touch. It becomes no longer just love and concern for someone else, but it adds the "brotherly" touch, the deep feeling for someone else's need because that "someone else" is also a member of the body of Christ, and an heir of salvation. That is brotherly love!

Be also tenderhearted and of humble mind. Be compassionate. These two qualities of a Christian--having a tender heart and a humble mind--are qualities that a Christian will show to all people and not only to his fellows in the faith. When you see a child get hurt, could it be that you first ask him if he is a child of God, and if he is not, then you won't help him? I can't picture any one doing that; I can picture bending down and helping the child to its feet, brushing off the cinders from the hands and wiping away tears, asking if we should go home. I believe anyone of us would do

that. What is there in the tears of a child that makes one's heart so tender? Yet, day after day, you and I pass someone by who really needs our help. Why do they need our help? Because you and I have more to offer them than just help in the immediate need. We have the Gospel of Jesus Christ to offer them, the perfect ointment to heal all their souls by offering them the forgiveness of sins through the perfect sacrifice of Christ on the Cross.

Being compassionate also means to be forgiving. Your sins have been forgiven by God for the sake of Jesus. Would you withhold this forgiveness from others? This is the foremost of our blessings from the hand of God; and now can we refuse to forgive others?

Be of a humble mind. You have heard a successful man say that he is a self-made man. How wrong can a man be? Who gave him the strength to accomplish the things he has achieved? Who gave him the brains to use? Who gave him life? Was it not God? Is it not God Who sustains him? Be of humble mind. Pride and conceit have no place in the life of a Christian. High-mindedness will find no rest in the life of a child of God. As St. Paul says, "Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves."

And our text goes on to say, "Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary blessing." You have heard the warning, "think twice before you act." Or, the expression, "count to ten first." But the Christian doesn't need to go to all that trouble. All he needs to do is think of Christ. Then he will ask himself: "Would Christ consider this just cause for me to say what I am thinking? Would He want me to do this? Would He agree with the terrible words I'd like to say to that guy?" If Christ doesn't agree with what you may be about to say or do, then you can be very positive that what you want to do is wrong. "Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all." When someone works evil against you because you are a Christian, then stand up like a man and take it because you know that Christ took it, and He did not try to get back at His accusers. Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Wasn't our Lord persecuted because He called Himself the Son of God, and they didn't believe Him? Didn't He pray that the sins of His enemies might be forgiven? Didn't He command you -- and me to do the same? Surely, He did, but it seems so hard, you say. Yes, it is hard. But are we Christians because we want to live an easy life, or because we love the Lord Jesus Christ, and know we need the

forgiveness of sins and the salvation which He can give us?

We have talked for the last 20-minutes about the qualities that are expected of us as Christians. We have talked about these several qualities which Peter mentions in his epistle. We could go on talking longer on what makes a Christian. Many ministers have. We have heard them. We have been swamped all our lives with someone -- and it's usually ministers in sermons -- telling us how we ought to be good Christians, what we ought to do and not to do. We have heard it so often that we become deaf to the sound of such instruction. I wonder how many of us this morning, when I began speaking about the qualities of a Christian, turned off your mental hearing aids. Was it because you didn't want to hear about it? I think not. I think it was a natural thing to do. You have heard it all before. But, listen! Despite the fact that you have heard it many times, *ARE YOU DOING IT?* Are you living up to God's expectations of *YOU* as a Christian?

You have been forgiven by God for all your sins for Jesus' sake. You stand righteous before God because Christ took your place and died for all your sins. He redeemed you and washed you clean. You are justified by Christ. And now you turn from sin and serve God. Now you leave behind the works of Satan and serve Christ. "I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

"Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing."

These are the qualities which God expects of you. Pray that you may live up to them. Amen.

Enrollment in Roman Catholic Schools & Colleges in 1956 is reported as a record of 4,500,000 and expected to reach an additional million by 1980. The growth of Catholic schools has been about 100-percent for the last twenty-five years.

No man should allow his vocation in life to be his supreme job. It should be only the means to accomplish his main work in life. Bishop Keeney.

ILLUSTRATIONS

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF "FOR"

Eccl. 12:11 "The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies."

Some one has compiled twenty suggestive sayings on the theme, "You will never be sorry."

For telling the Truth
For living a pure life
For your faith in Christ
For confessing your sins
For doing your best
For thinking before acting
For hearing before judging
For forgiving your enemies
For being candid and frank
For helping a fallen brother
For being honest in business,
For thinking before speaking
For being loyal to your church
For standing by your principles
For stopping your ears to gossip
For bridling a slanderous tongue
For harboring only true thoughts
For sympathizing with the afflicted
For being courteous and kind to all
for money given to the Lord's cause

CHRIST IS REAL

Rev. 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

A story current sometime ago relates how a young woman kept house for her father and mother. Day after day she did the chores of home life. On the can from which she took tea each day she became familiar with the label, on which was a picture of Gibraltar. Grown to maturity, she took a voyage to Egypt. The ship docked at Gibraltar, and through the port hole she saw the great rock. Writing to friends back home she said, "I almost cried out. I kept saying to myself, then it is real. Its been real all the time." Jesus said, "He that hath seen Me has seen the Father." The revelation of God is real. Christ is alive.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD AGAIN IN PLACE

Soon after the close of the second world war, an announcement was made that the great painting of Holman Hunt's, "The

monroe

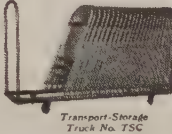
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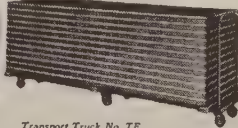
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"Light of the World," had been placed back in its position in the nave of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. During the German "blitz" it had been taken down from its place. All the world knows the story of the boy who asked Holman Hunt why there was no latch on the door. The artist replied, "It is the door of the human heart and must be opened from the inside." When Christ who is the Light of the World is placed in His proper place men find peace and courage and faith. As the great artist suggested Christ can only come into the human heart when it is opened from the inside.

AN UNFORGETTABLE COMMAND

"And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world..." All the world has come to know of the great work of Frank Laubach. He has been the instrument in the hands of God to give knowledge to millions of people who had never heard of the Gospel. His message is, "Each one teach one." Speaking of his work, Dr. Laubach has said, "But now a glacier has started moving; a billion people are on the march, and they will overwhelm the world, unless all of you help to preach the Gospel to every creature." The church has never forgotten that it always faces a command. In our day the means of

communication grows. There is the need to emphasize the good news.

MAINSRING REPAIRS WOMAN'S HEART

From Detroit, Mich., came the report in May, 1957, that "a year ago, a 34-year old Detroit mother of five was told she had a life expectancy of six months. Now she is leading a near-normal life--the mainspring of a watch serving as a heart valve."

Wayne State University says that "Mrs. Mabel Streeter, on April 5, 1956, became the first person in whom a leaky heart valve was replaced by a metal spring."

The artificial valve was developed by a team of doctors from the Wayne University College of Medicine and the Elgin National Watch Co., from an alloy used in watch mainsprings. The company predicted it would last 300 years.

The patient was considered critically ill 18 months ago, unable to do any housework or walk up steps without aid. Now, her doctors say, she does her housework and some shopping and can climb some without fatigue.

When the operation was performed, the doctors described her condition as "rapid downhill." The mitral valve in the left side of her heart had calcified and its flaps turned inward, leaving a hole that never fully closed between heart beats.

The valve normally opens to let blood from the lungs into the left ventricle--the main pumping chamber--and closes as the heart-gushes blood into the aorta or main artery. But here the valve permitted the blood to pass both ways between the chambers and the body got only a trickle.

Doctors figured her life expectancy at six months when they decided to try the metal-valve technique.

A Wayne State surgical team had been working two years on perfecting the metal for just such an emergency as beset this patient. The valve fashioned by the surgeons is diamond-shaped, as large as a penny, with a nylon web across it. When the heart is pumping, it snaps up over the mitral valve opening; snaps down then to let in a new supply into the pumping chamber. The heart muscle works the valve.

COURT DECLARES PARSONAGE NOT A SACRED BUILDING

Luke 17:24-26. "But first he shall suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation. so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man."

The Florida Supreme Court ruled, as reported by RNS, Tallahassee, Fla., "that a parsonage is not a sacred building."

It reversed a Circuit Court judge in Sarasota who denied a liquor license to a place of business within five hundred feet of a parsonage.

The Supreme Court said that a *parsonage*, except for the 'goodness of its occupant,' -- does not differ from any other residence.

TEST OF CHARACTER

There is something finer than to do right against inclination; and that is to *have the inclination to do right!* There is something nobler than reluctant obedience; and that is joyful obedience. The rank of virtue is not always measured by its disagreeableness, but by its sweetness to the heart that loves it. The real test of character is JOY! For what you rejoice in, that you love. And what you love, that YOU ARE LIKE!

--Henry Van Dyke.

FAILURE IS SUCCESS

A Moravian missionary named George Smith went to Africa. He had been there only for a brief time and had only one convert, a poor woman, when he was driven from the country. He died shortly after, on his knees, praying for Africa. He was considered a failure.

But a company of men stumbled onto the place where he had prayed and found a copy of the Scriptures he had left. Presently they met the *one poor woman who was his convert.*

A hundred years later his mission counted more than 13,000 living converts who had sprung from the ministry of George Smith.

A. H. Gordon, *Exchange*

The angels from their thrones on high
Look down on us with wondering eye,
That where we are but passing guests
We build such strong and solid nests,
And where we hope to dwell for aye
We scarce take heed a stone to lay.

When in sorrow, read John 14.
When men fail you, Psalm 27.
When you have sinned, Psalm 51.
When you worry, Matthew 6:19-34.
Before church service, Psalm 84.
When you are in danger, Psalm 91.
When you have the blues, Psalm 34.
When God seems far away, Psalm 139.
When you are discouraged, Isaiah 40.
If you desire to be fruitful, John 15.
When doubts come upon you, John 7:17.
When you are lonely or fearful, Psalm 33.
When you forget your blessings, Psalm 103.
For Jesus' idea of a Christian, Matthew 5.
For James' idea of religion, James 1:19-27.
For stirring of faith, Hebrews 11.

BOOKS

THE INTERPRETER'S BIBLE, *A Commentary in Twelve Volumes. This is Volume 12.* Abingdon. 817 pages. \$8.75

Volume 12, contains complete commentary on James, Peter, John, Jude, Revelation, general Articles, Indexes.

The General Articles, four in number, "The Transmission of the New Testament"; "Illustrated History of the Biblical Text," with 16 pages of color photographs; "The Dead Sea Scrolls"; and an Old and New Testament, Apocrypha, and Pseudepigrapha literary chronology. Two indexes to the entire set—"Scripture Cited Out of Context" and "Subjects."

The letters to James, Peter, John, and Jude are called the "general" or "Catholic" epistles because they were addressed to Christians in general rather than to particular churches.

The only real faith is that which shows itself in good deeds. This is the essence of the message of James. The writer is concerned that his readers be not merely professing but practicing Christians.

Peter has been described as "The Epistle of Courage"; "the Epistle of Pilgrimage"; and the "Epistle of Hope." Jude has significance today, nor because of its clear perception of the tremendous ethical import of Jesus' humanity, but because it emphasizes the relevance of sound theology for sound morality.

Contributors are: Burton Scott Easton; Gordon Poteat; Archibald M. Hunter; Elmer G. Tompighausen; Albert E. Barnett; Amos N. Wilder; Paul W. Hoon; Martin Rist; Lynn Harold Hough; Kenneth W. Clark; John C. Trever; Frank Moore Cross, Jr.; Samuel Terrien; John Knox. Volume 12 publication date is Aug. 5, 1957.

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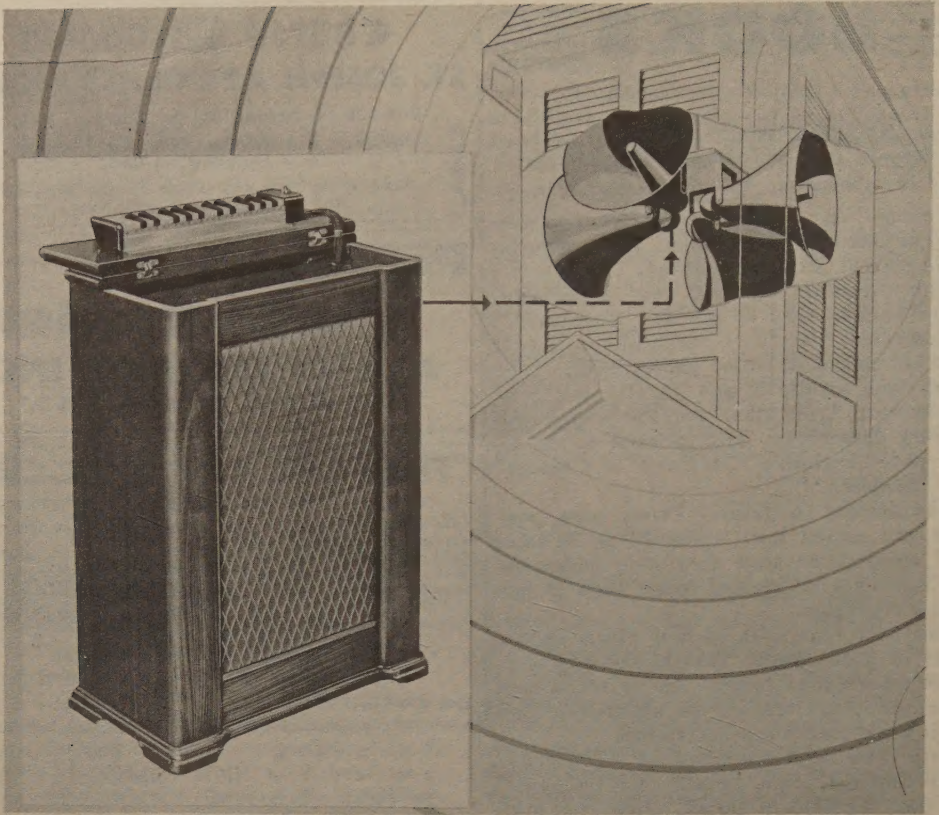
J. B. Phillips. Macmillan. 48-P. \$2.00

Any comment on the translation of the Book of Revelation by Dr. Phillips would have to be based on a more fundamental understanding of the archaic Greek than the author has, and few would make that claim.

Dr. Phillips retired from the active ministry early in 1955, to turn his energies to writing, speaking, and broadcasting for the Faith. This book must be read not once, but a number to times to fathom its beauty and depth of thought.

ALBERT SCHWEITZER. The Story of His Life By Jean Pierhal. Philosophical. 160-p. \$3.00

This volume of 19-Chapters should be required reading for every boy and girl in every Christian home, Sunday School, or lower grades, as well as parents and teacher.



Maas-Rowe Announces New Low-Cost Console Carillon for Smaller Churches

Maas-Rowe has just introduced a new line of *single package* console carillons that smaller churches have been waiting for! Similar in appearance to the well-known Vibrachime, - this new 25-note carillon bell instrument has a powerful 45-watt carillon amplifier inside a finished walnut console-type cabinet. As stated by Paul Rowe of Maas-Rowe Carillons: "This is the first time that an amplifier of such high output power has ever been commercially available in a self-contained carillon. By combining both tower amplifier and instrument in a single package, the usual remote control equipment for turning the amplifier on and off is eliminated and the installation is greatly simplified."

Moreover, the economy effected by this arrangement makes possible a remarkably low-price for this high quality instrument. There are 2 basic models: One equipped with a single 40-watt, 360 degree radial speaker, and the other having four directional speakers. Both models are priced under \$1000, with traditional minor third tuning. Major tuning is available at a small additional cost. Now even the small church can afford a 25-note electronic carillon with sufficient output power for most locations. Furthermore, Maas-Rowe automatic carillon players and bell ringers can also be used with the new console carillon. In keeping with Maas-Rowe's long-established policy, the new Console Carillon will be sold only through established organ dealers. For complete information on this new low-cost, high-quality instrument, clergymen, church committees and interested members of the laity are invited to write to Maas-Rowe, in care of The Expositor, Box 11, Rast Aurora, New York.

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The sub-title of this booklet is-"How to live--and give--on what you earn."
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phrase in understandable words, and should be required reading or most of us.

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GENERAL

Attendance	148
Blind Man	149
Book Reviews	163
Building, Church	151
Christ Wants Us	144
Church Building	152
Church Methods	150
Dedication Prayer	151
Faith	142
Food Handling	148
Fund Raising	153
Illustrations	161
Inflation	146
Liquor	149
Looking Up, <i>Moll</i>	158
Ministry, <i>Burnham</i>	145
Over Fifty	151
Prayer for Shut-Ins	155
Psychiatric Lect.	150
Re-Tirement	147
School Program	150
Sermons	153
Spiritual-life Clin.	150
Success	150
Catholic Policies	152

CHURCH METHODS

Building Member-ship	151
Church Construction	152
Dedication Prayer	151
Fund Raising	152
Lectures for Ministers	150
People Over 50	151
School Program	150
Spiritual Life Clinic	150
Success	150
Catholic Policies	152

SERMONS

Bells Ring, <i>Jones</i>	156
Looking Up, <i>Moll</i>	158
Our Ship, <i>Harkey</i>	153

ARTICLES

Christ is Adequate	142
Christ Wants Us, <i>Benson</i>	144
Ministry, <i>Burnham</i>	145
Re-Tirement, <i>Smith</i>	147

EDITORIAL

Alcoholics	148
Blind Man	149
Food Handling	148
Two or Three	149

ILLUSTRATIONS

Character Test	162
Christ is Real	161
Failure-Success	162
For Courage	162
Light of World	161
Sacred Building	162
Significance of "For"	161
Unforgettable Command	161
Woman's Heart	162

SCRIPTURE TEXTS

I-Illustrations
S-Sermons

Prov. 4:18 (S)	147
Eccl. 12:11 (I)	161
Mark 1:37 (I)	150
Luke 15:10 (S)	156
Luke 17:24 (I)	162
John 17:3 (S)	147
Acts 27:25 (S)	153
1 Cor. 9:26 (S)	146
1 Tim. 6:12 (S)	146
11 Tim. 4:7 (S)	146
Hebr. 7:25 (I)	142
1 Peter 3:8 (S)	158
Rev. 3:20 (I)	161

A Condensation of Ten Lessons from author's Book, "The Art of Soul-Winning". The author is Dean of Canadian Bible Institute, Regina, Sask., Canada.

Part 1, Preparation for Soul-Winning, in 5-lessons; Part 2, Participation in Soul-Winning, 5-parts or Lessons.

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Maas-Rowe Co. 165

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Redington Co. 166

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Manitowoc Co. 159

Redington Co. 157

CHURCH ORGANS

Austin Organ Co. 163

CHURCH WINDOWS

St. Joseph Art Gl. 163

COMMUNION WARE

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Cotrell & Leonard 165

DeMoulin Bros. 166

Ward & Co., C.E. 165

INSURANCE

MINISTERS LIFE 143

Presby.Min.Fund 155

PUBLISHERS

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166

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